



# **The 2012 Great Park Pursuit Grand Finale Celebration**

at

## **Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park**

287 Oak Street, Uxbridge, MA

508-278-7604 or 508-278-6488 phone

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/central/blst.htm>

**Saturday, September 15, 2012**

**12:00pm – 4:00pm**

## **Please Join Us!**

Enjoy a day of outdoor fun at the DCR Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park! Celebrate a summer of great parks, programs and family fun, and the conclusion of the 2012 Great Park Pursuit series! All GPP Teams are invited to attend. GPP Teams that have met the 2012 GPP Challenge will be recognized at the Concluding Ceremonies. Pack a picnic lunch and plan on a day of fun for the whole family.

- Tour the River Bend Farm Visitor Center Exhibits
- Step Back in Time along the historic tow path
- Take a Wagon Ride through the rolling fields
- Make Tracks with a professional naturalist
- Attend a Live Animal Program
- Enjoy music and stories with children's performer
- Paddling! Fishing! Fun nature crafts for kids, too!
- Concluding ceremonies and celebrations!

## Event Schedule:

<b>Welcome &amp; Check-in</b>	12:00noon-2:30pm	All GPP Teams! <b>Please bring a printed version of your GPP HomePage to the Welcome Tent</b> for "check-in" and "challenge verification".  Receive your GPP event day "sticker" and schedule.
<b>Ongoing Activities!</b>	12:00pm-3:00pm	Plan your visit and enjoy several fun activities including fishing, paddling, tracking, guided walks, wagon rides and nature crafts!
<b>Special Events!</b>	12:00-1:00pm	Live Animal Presentation with Rick Roth
	1:00pm & 2:30	All for Fun! All for Family! Tune n' Tales with Tina Stone
<b>GPP Recognition &amp; Awards Ceremony</b>	3:00pm-4:00pm	Join GPP Teams and Partners for recognition of all GPP Teams, certificates and celebration!

## Things To Know Before You Go...

- The GPP Grand Finale will be held rain or shine. Please check the weather forecast to dress and pack accordingly.
- **Please bring a printed version of your GPP HomePage to the Welcome Tent.** (This will serve as the "photo" documentation of your GPP Team and GPP mascot 2012 park adventures! If you have any trouble or technical issues printing this record – please bring an alternate form of documentation of your 2012 GPP adventures, please include photos if possible.)
- **Please bring your GPP Squirrel mascot for FUN and Photos!**

- **Please bring your completed GPP Participant Forms or be prepared to complete them at the Welcome Tent.**
- Dress in layers for maximum comfort. Wear sturdy footgear.
- Pack a hat, sunscreen and bug repellent.
- Please bring water to stay well hydrated.
- Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy it along the canal or in the shade. Full food facilities are not available at the park.
- For additional information on accessibility please contact the park directly at 508-278-7604 or 508-278-6488 phone.

## **Finish the GPP Challenge!**

Great job to all the GPP Teams who have already met the 2012 GPP Challenge! If you're close...finish strong! Visit parks, programs or fulfill a partner sponsored opportunity this week and join in the festivities this Saturday!!

## **Photos and Stories!**

Please share your photos and stories online at

<http://gpp.env.state.ma.us/Pursuit/FollowFamily.aspx> . Stories and Photos will be approved and posted online until Friday, September 14 at midnight. Contributions after that time will be posted after September 17. Contributions necessary for GPP Team documentation may be brought in an alternate format to the GPP Finale.

## **Directions!**

The park is located off of Rte 122 in south central Massachusetts.

### **From the East/West/Boston/Southeast:**

Take Mass Pike (Rte. I-90) to exit #10A in Millbury, Rte 146 South.

Take Rte 146 S & follow for 12 miles to exit # 3, Route 16.

Turn left onto Rte 16 East and follow for 2 miles to the traffic lights.

Turn left onto Route 122 North and follow for 1-1/4 mile and then turn right at traffic light onto Hartford Ave.

In 1 mile, turn right onto Oak Street at the UMass Tri-River Family Health Center.

Visitor Center is 1/10 mile on the left in the red barn.

### **From Northeast/Worcester:**

Take Rte 495 to Rte 290 West to exit #12, Rte 146 South.

Follow Rte 146S to exit # 3, Route 16.  
Turn left onto Rte 16 East and follow for 2 miles to the traffic lights.  
Turn left onto Route 122 North and follow for 1-1/4 mile.  
Then turn right at traffic light onto Hartford Ave.  
In 1 mile, turn right on Oak Street at the UMass Tri-River Family Health Center.  
Visitor Center is 1/10 mile on the left.

**From Northwest:**

Take Rte 2 East to exit #33 in Leominster, Rte 190 South.  
Follow Rte 190S to Rte 290 West in Worcester.  
Take Rte 290W to exit #12. Rte 146 South.  
Follow Rte 146 S to exit # 3, Rte 16.  
Turn left onto Rte 16 East and follow for 2 miles to the traffic lights.  
Turn left onto Route 122 North and follow for 1-1/4 mile.  
Then turn right at traffic light onto Hartford Ave.  
In 1 mile, turn right on Oak Street at the UMass Tri-River Family Health Center.  
Visitor Center is 1/10 mile on the left in the red barn.

**Alternate: From Route 122**

For those that prefer to travel through some of the mill villages:  
Take Exit 11 off the Mass Pike and follow Route 122 South towards Grafton.  
Follow Rte 122S for 13 miles to Hartford Avenue and turn left.  
In 1 mile, turn right on Oak Street at the UMass Tri-River Family Health Center.  
Visitor Center is 1/10 mile on the left in the red barn.

## Questions?

Please contact the GPP Admin Team via email at [parks.pursuit@state.ma.us](mailto:parks.pursuit@state.ma.us) or via phone at 617-626-1450.

Cheers!

The DCR Great Park Pursuit Team